

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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R 120707Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5446
INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 5779

FOR EUR/EE; CU/EE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC RO
SUBJECT: WOODROW WILSON CENTER'S INVITATION TO PROFESSOR BOTEZ

REF: STATE 263232

1. BOTEZ ACCEPTS WITH PLEASURE APPOINTMENT AT CENTER BEGINNING JANUARY 1976 (BILLINGTON INVITATION OF OCTOBER 21). HE HAS SHARED A COPY OF BILLINGTON'S LETTER WITH US AND HAS BEEN URGED TO SEND THE FINANCIAL CERTIFICATION FORM TO THE CENTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. DEPT PLEASE INFORM BILLINGTON.
2. BOTEZ, AS BEFORE, IS PROCEEDING UNDER ASSUMPTION RCP POLEXCO'S JUNE APPROVAL OF HIS EXIT REQUEST REMAINS VALID UNTIL YEAR'S END.
3. CENTER SHOULD NOTE AS BACKGROUND TO BOTEZ'S FINANCIAL FORM THAT, IN KEEPING WITH GOR PRACTICE, HIS REGULAR ROMANIAN SALARY MAY BE CUT OFF DURING THE PERIOD OF HIS STAY ABROAD AND NO HOME-INSTITUTION FUNDING IS POSSIBLE. THERE ALSO IS A POSSIBILITY HE MAY HAVE TO KICK BACK TO GOR PART OF WHATEVER DOLLAR STIPEND HE RECEIVES ALTHOUGH HE IS NOT CERTAIN ABOUT THIS POINT. IN ANY CASE, HIS TAKE-HOME SALARY IN ROMANIAN LEI AS A PROFESSOR AND STUDIES-CENTER HEAD IS DERISORY -- HE SAYS AROUND \$100 PER MONTH -- (DUE TO "ORGANIZATIONAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S. AND ROMANIA", AS IT IS EUPHEMISTICALLY PHRASED HERE) AND THUS IT IS

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NO INDEX TO WHAT AMOUNT CAN HELP HIM KEEP BODY AND SOUL TOGETHER

AT U.S. PRICES. WE TRUST THE CENTER WILL NOT APPLY THE PRINCIPLE OF "NO GAIN OR LOSS" TO LITERALLY TO BOTEZ AND OTHER COMPARABLE SCHOLARS FROM ROMANIA, IF THEY ARE ADEQUATELY TO MEET AT LEAST BOARD AND ROOM EXPENSES IN U.S. BOTEZ HAS EXPRESSED SOME RELUCTANCE TO SPELL OUT ALL THIS ON THE FINANCIAL FORM TO BE SUBMITTED, BUT IT IS HOPED THE CENTER CAN SET A REASONABLE STIPEND IN U.S. TERMS BASED ON NOMINEE'S PROFESSIONAL STANDING AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

4. FOR CU/EE: WE BELIEVE BOTEZ CHANCES FOR OBTAINING GOR FINANCING INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ARE MINIMAL. IN EVENT GOR UNABLE COULD CENTER FINANCE THESE COSTS. IF NOT, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS HE BE GIVEN FULBRIGHT

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TRAVEL-ONLY GRANT FOR TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE U.S. FUTUROLOGIST BOTEZ OCCUPIES A VIRTUALLY UNIQUE POSITION IN THE ROMANIAN HIERARCHY AND HAS BEEN EXCEPTIONALLY HELPFUL IN THE ENLARGING OF US-ROMANIAN SCHOLARLY COOPERATION. IN VIEW OF HIS INTERNATIONAL STANDING IN HIS FIELD AND CONTRIBUTION HE CAN MAKE TO OUR MUTUAL EXCHANGE OBJECTIVES, WE SEE CONSIDERABLE MERIT IN ASSOCIATING HIM WITH OUR FULBRIGHT PROGRAM. EMBASSY REALIZES BOTEZ HAS RECEIVED AN IVP GRANT DURING LAST FISCAL YEAR AND WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S FLEXIBILITY IN RESPONDING TO THIS RECOMMENDATION FOR TRAVEL-ONLY GRANT. AMBASSADOR BARNES, NOW IN WASHINGTON, IS PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN THIS CASE AND WILL BE HAPPY TO SUPPLY CU/EE WITH ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND IN SUPPORT OF THIS CASE.
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